UNITED NATIONS

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.7/1990/2
15 November 1989

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS
Eleventh special session
Vienna, 29 January-2 February 1990
Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF MORE EFFECTIVE ACTION AGAINST ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING THROUGH REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT

Second Interregional Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (Interregional HONLEA)

Vienna, 11-15 September 1989

Report

CONTENTS

Chapter		Paragraphs	Page
I.	RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	1	2
II.	ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS	2-11	9
III.	DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THE FIRST INTERREGIONAL HONLEA: REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL TRENDS AND PERSPECTIVES	12-31	11
IV.	PROVISIONAL APPLICATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES	32-51	15
V.	REVIEW OF COUNTERMEASURES AND SPECIAL TECHNIQUES	52-73	19
VI.	DEVELOPMENT OF A LONG-TERM DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING STRATEGY	74-87	22
VII.	RECOMMENDATIONS FROM REGIONAL MEETINGS OF HEADS OF NATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES REFERRED TO THE MEETING BY THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS	88-90	24
VIII.	OTHER BUSINESS	91-93	25

Annexes

I.	List of participants	26
II.	List of documents	27
III.	Message to the President of Colombia	32

* E/CN.7/1990/1.

V.89-61327 7353A

I. RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Second Interregional Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (Second Interregional HONLEA) adopted, by consensus, the resolutions and recommendations listed below. (When considering the recommendations, a number of participants expressed concern with regard to their financial implications. The Director of the Division of Narcotic Drugs indicated that detailed financial implications would be provided at the time of the consideration of the recommendations by the competent United Nations legislative body, such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs or the Economic and Social Council. The Meeting adopted the recommendations on the basis of that understanding.)

Resolution I. In support of Colombia

The Second Interregional Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies,

Aware of the vital significance of the struggle being waged by the Colombian authorities against the cartels responsible for the international traffic in cocaine,

Convinced of the necessity, within the spirit of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, 1/ adopted in 1988, to mobilize the entire international community to develop in consultation with the Colombian authorities a global policy to counter this menace,

1. Assures all the Colombian law enforcement authorities of their solidarity with them in this struggle;

2. Invites Governments that have not yet taken relevant initiatives to consider urgently how they may contribute, according to their ability, to a programme of effective measures to assist the Colombian authorities, which might include:

(a) Assistance in the legal domain;

(b) Additional support for the normal operation of the criminal justice system;

(c) The means of ensuring the safety of persons directly threatened by drug traffickers;

(d) The strengthening of the infrastructures, facilities and specialized techniques for combating large-scale drug trafficking;

(e) The strengthening of the resources for suppressing related violence and intimidation;

3. Emphasizes the need for measures of assistance to be carefully co-ordinated;

1/ E/CONF.82/15 and Corr.2.

Resolution II. Early ratification of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances

The Second Interregional Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies,

Deeply concerned about the alarming dimensions assumed by illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances throughout the world,

Convinced that action to combat this offence constitutes a reason of State and a matter of national security for all Governments, owing to the peril to which it exposes humankind as a whole,

Recalling resolution 2 of 19 December 1988 adopted by the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances 1/ and Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/13 of 22 May 1989,

1. Makes a strong appeal to all States to intensify measures aimed at the early ratification of the 1988 Convention so that it may enter into force as soon as possible;

2. Urges States to apply without delay, on a provisional basis, the measures provided for in the 1988 Convention, to the utmost extent feasible;

3. Requests the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, as Co-ordinator of All United Nations Drug Control-Related Activities, to transmit this strong appeal to the Secretary-General of the United Nations so that he may exhort Member States to act without delay in accordance with this appeal.

1/ "Final Act of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances" (E/CONF.82/14), annex.

Resolution III. Recommended countermeasures and special techniques

The Second Interregional Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies,

Concerned at the fact that illicit drug trafficking at the national, regional and international levels has reached alarming proportions,

Bearing in mind that illicit drug trafficking is a global problem that has to be overcome by determined, sustained and concerted action at the international level,

Recognizing that international criminal activities associated with illicit trafficking not only threaten populations but also destabilize institutions, undermine law and order, and may even threaten the sovereignty of States,

Recalling the Declaration of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, 1/

Considering that, with the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances 2/ in 1988, the international community elaborated a comprehensive framework of practical measures to combat drug trafficking,

Convinced of the need for the 1988 Convention to enter into force at the earliest possible date and for its provisions to be fully and universally applied,

Having reviewed countermeasures and special techniques that could enhance the effectiveness of law enforcement agencies,

Wishes to bring the 13 recommendations listed below to the attention of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for transmission to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly with a view to their urgent consideration:

1. Provisional measures to give effect to the 1988 Convention

The Second Interregional HONLEA encourages States to take such measures as may be necessary, to the extent possible within the framework of each State's national law, to give provisional effect to the requirements of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic and Psychotropic Substances prior to the ratification and entry into force of that Convention, in particular, to take such measures as may be necessary:

(a) To criminalize narcotics money laundering;

(b) To accomplish the exchange of evidence of drug crimes;

(c) To trace, freeze and confiscate the proceeds of illicit trafficking;

(d) To utilize the technique of controlled delivery.

2. Mutual legal assistance and other forms of international co-operation

The Second Interregional HONLEA recommends that all States should:

(a) Promote regional training and information exchanges on the development of instruments for mutual assistance and other forms of co-operation;

(b) Encourage officials to meet informally with those of other Member States and exchange information on the extent to which, consistent with the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, adopted in 1988, and in conformity with national legislation, mutual legal assistance and other forms of co-operation may be provided between them without delay;

(c) Support the elaboration of a United Nations model bilateral treaty on mutual legal assistance consistent with the 1988 Convention.

3. Control and monitoring of substances, materials and other items used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances

The Second Interregional HONLEA, concerned by the frequent and increasingly widespread diversion of chemical precursors, inputs, raw materials, equipment and other items used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances:

(a) Recommends States to adopt, as soon as possible, control and monitoring procedures in accordance with the provisions of article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances;

(b) Requests all Governments to co-operate in the exchange of information on chemical handlers and consignees of chemical shipments, and on the legitimate industrial need of each State for essential and precursor chemicals.

4. International exchange of drug intelligence information

The Second Interregional HONLEA, (a) aware of the need to strengthen international co-operation between law enforcement agencies, especially in the area of collecting and sharing operational drug intelligence information, (b) having regard to the obligations under article 9 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, that Parties shall co-operate closely with one another consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative systems, with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of law enforcement action in this area, and (c) convinced that the basis for improving the exchange of such intelligence information must be a network of national drug intelligence information units in which all drug law enforcement agencies pool their intelligence information data:

(a) Invites Governments that have not already established such units to consider urgently their establishment;

(b) Recommends, in appropriate circumstances and in a manner consistent with the principles of sovereign equality and territorial integrity, the creation of regional drug intelligence information units;

(c) Urges law enforcement agencies to forward expeditiously on a bilateral basis and through appropriate international agencies, including the International Criminal Police Organization, pertinent information on the membership, associates and *modus operandi* of international drug syndicates and cartels and on new trends in illicit trafficking.

5. Intensification of universal action against drug trafficking

The Second Interregional HONLEA, (a) concerned by the escalating incidence of illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and related crimes and (b) noting that States would be better equipped to deal with this menace by taking urgent steps to ensure implementation of the substantive provisions of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, recommends that, as of 1990, intensified, well co-ordinated operations against drug traffickers should be mounted nationally and internationally.

6. Support to transit States

The Second Interregional HONLEA, (a) recognizing the efforts of all countries in the struggle against illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and (b) determined to make more effective the cooperation provided for in article 10 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, recommends that the Parties to the Convention should achieve greater efficacy in international assistance to and support of transit States and, in particular, developing countries, either directly or through international or regional agencies, by means of programmes of technical co-operation and financial assistance, with the aim of improving and strengthening the infrastructure required for the prevention and control of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

7. More severe penalties and other measures against drug trafficking and related offences

The Second Interregional HONLEA:

(a) Reiterates the urgent need to participate with maximum energy and vigour in an international alliance to combat illicit production of and illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

(b) Recommends that States should introduce penalties and measures to give maximum efficacy to detection and enforcement with respect to offences related to drug trafficking, taking into account the need to exercise a deterrent effect on the commission of these offences, and encourages States to bear in mind the gravity of such offences when contemplating the possibility of granting early release or probation to persons who have been judged guilty of any of these offences.

8. Promoting the use of drug-scenting dogs

The Second Interregional HONLEA recommends that:

(a) Regional meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies should promote the use by Member States of drug-scenting dogs in the detection and control of illegal drugs;

(b) A working group should be formed to co-ordinate programmes of technical assistance in this field and to develop guidelines for the training of handlers and training methods for drug-scenting dogs;

(c) The working group should hold regular sessions of perhaps two days' duration.

9. The protection of informants and witnesses

The Second Interregional HONLEA recommends that each State should give serious consideration to creating a formal and well-structured programme for the protection of informants and witnesses in order to ensure their safety and promote their co-operation so as to maximize prosecutorial success aimed at the upper echelon of the illicit drug traffic.

10. Illicit drugs in cargo

The Second Interregional HONLEA, concerned about the problems caused by the concealment of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances in cargo, recommends that the Division of Narcotic Drugs should establish and convene an ad hoc expert working group to consider the development of effective systems of control using intelligence and profiling techniques, taking into account the needs of legitimate trade.

11. Training of drug law enforcement agents

The Second Interregional HONLEA, (a) concerned about the need for the training of drug law enforcement agents, which is an important factor in stepping up and making more effective the fight against illicit drug traffic and abuse, (b) considering the vulnerability of the African region as a transit area for illicit drug traffic and the grossly inadequate infrastructure and material necessary for training drug law enforcement agents in the African subregions to cope effectively with the sophisticated and highly organized illicit drug trade, and (c) conscious of the notoriety of the West African subregion as a major transit area, recommends that:

(a) A subregional training centre should be established in each of the five African subregions;

(b) Priority should be given to the establishment of a West African subregional centre by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

(c) Each State in the African region should be assisted in developing a basic training centre with a view to training drug law enforcement agents and other personnel in scientific areas as a necessary preliminary step to more advanced training at the subregional centre.

12. Meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Europe

The Second Interregional HONLEA recommends to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs that it take the necessary steps to establish a meeting of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies, Europe, similar to those regional meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies already established, in order to further promote technical regional co-operation in the fight against illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, and in line with General Assembly resolution 43/122 of 8 December 1988, taking into account the existing co-operation between European countries.

13. Preventive action to combat illicit drug demand more effectively

The Second Interregional HONLEA, (a) reaffirming the Declaration of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and taking into account the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control, and (b) recognizing that the problem of illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances affects or may affect all the countries in the international community and that, in order to counteract it, all the components in the process, from production to consumption, must be included:

(a) Recommends to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs that, complementary to measures aimed at combating illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, preventive action must be implemented in the family, social, cultural and economic spheres determining the common causal factors in drug abuse in order to establish policies designed to prevent growth in demand and to bring about a reduction in it;

(b) Welcomes the initiative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, jointly with the United Nations, to convene a world conference at the ministerial level, to be held in London in April 1990, to consider all aspects of the problem of reducing illicit drug demand.

1/ ST/NAR/14.
2/ E/CONF.82/15 and Corr.2.

II. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

A. Opening and duration of the Meeting

2. The Second Interregional HONLEA was held at Vienna from 11 to 15 September 1989. Ten plenary meetings were held. The Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna and Co-ordinator of All United Nations Drug Control-Related Activities opened the Second Interregional HONLEA, on behalf of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Chairman of the Meeting and the Director of the Division of Narcotic Drugs also addressed the first plenary. A minute of silence was observed in memory of those who had given their lives in the struggle against illicit drug trafficking.

3. The Director-General said that world-wide traffic in drugs was second only to that in armaments and that, as a result, humankind was predominantly engaged in the commerce of self-destruction. With the recent events in Colombia, the fight against drugs had taken the dimensions of an all-out war. While there were no simple solutions to international drug abuse control problems, that emphatically did not mean that there were no solutions. An effective response, however, required world-wide international co-operation. She concluded by saying that the cost of fighting the war would be high; but the cost of surrender would be catastrophic.

4. The Chairman, Javier Coello Trejo, urged Member States to use all energy and vigour in coping with drug abuse and illicit trafficking, which had become a universal scourge. He stressed the need to unite efforts and to profit from universal resources through a multilateral alliance against that scourge, based on collective responsibility and international solidarity, with absolute respect for the sovereignty of each nation.

5. The Director of the Division of Narcotic Drugs noted that throughout the 1980s the Division had promoted increased regional co-operation in combating illicit drug traffic. He recommended the early ratification of the 1988 Convention and the immediate application of its provisions in order to meet the challenge of the major drug traffickers. The exchange of experiences on special techniques to fight the illicit traffic and the establishment of a long-term law enforcement training strategy were also urgent and important tasks.

6. The Division of Narcotic Drugs served as the secretariat of the Meeting.

B. Attendance

7. The Second Interregional HONLEA was attended by the representatives of 101 States and by observers from 11 intergovernmental organizations and 11 non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (annex I).

C. Election of officers

8. The following officers were elected by consensus:

Chairman:	Javier Coello Trejo (Mexico)
First Vice-Chairman:	M. M. Bhatnagar (India)
Second Vice-Chairman:	András Turos (Hungary)
Third Vice-Chairman:	Kamoyo G. Mwale (Zambia)
Rapporteur:	Robert F. Pietersz (Netherlands)

D. Adoption of the agenda

9. The Second Interregional HONLEA adopted by consensus the following agenda:

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Developments since the First Interregional HONLEA: regional and interregional trends and perspectives
4. Provisional application of the 1988 Convention
5. Review of countermeasures and special techniques
6. Development of a long-term drug law enforcement training strategy
7. Recommendations from regional meetings of HONLEA referred to the Meeting by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs
8. Other business
9. Recommendations of the Second Interregional HONLEA
10. Adoption of the report

E. Documentation

10. Documents that were before the Second Interregional HONLEA are listed in annex II.

F. Adoption of the report

11. The report of the Second Interregional HONLEA was adopted at the final plenary on 15 September 1989.

III. DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THE FIRST INTERREGIONAL HONLEA: REGIONAL AND INTERREGIONAL TRENDS AND PERSPECTIVES

12. At its 2nd, 3rd and 4th meetings, on 11 and 12 September 1989, the Second Interregional HONLEA considered item 3 of its agenda. It had before it a document on that item prepared by the Secretariat (DND/IH/1989/3) and a conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat entitled "Current trends in illicit narcotic drugs traffic (cocaine, heroin and cannabis resin)" (DND/IH/1989/CRP.2).

13. Many participants expressed concern at the growing extent of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, against which no country was immune. A concerted international response was imperatively needed, one no longer based on the traditional classification of producer and consumer countries. The recent events in Colombia were considered a dramatic illustration of the gravity of the situation worldwide. Admiration was unanimously expressed for the courage and determination displayed by the President of Colombia and Colombian judges and law enforcement officers in their struggle against drug traffickers. Many participants stated that, during the Second Interregional HONLEA, ways of showing solidarity with Colombia in the war it had launched against the major drug traffickers should be identified and action in that direction should be initiated. Colombia should not be allowed to lose its war, as that would amount to a defeat for the entire international community.

14. Referring to the situation in their own countries, many participants provided details on recent trends in drug abuse and trafficking. While some participants reported a stabilization of drug abuse during the last three years, many others described an aggravation of the situation, characterized in some instances by the appearance of relatively new substances, such as crack or the amphetamine "ecstasy", or by the spread of drug abuse to other segments of the population. Details were also given on new trends in traffic routes, means of transport (for instance, by trucks engaged in international transportation) and the nationalities of drug couriers. Several participants presented their countries as being mainly transit States, owing to their geographical position in relation to producer and consumer countries, and explained the problems encountered in that context by their relevant authorities. They emphasized the difficulty of controlling numerous points of entry and other land, water and air approaches to their countries.

15. It was pointed out that increased vigilance should be exercised in view of the possible diversion of drug traffic to Europe resulting from the drastic measures taken to counter it in the western hemisphere. One participant drew attention to the reinforced measures that would be required to control the extensive frontiers of the European Economic Community (EEC) following the establishment of complete freedom of movement within its borders.

16. Many participants reported on law enforcement activities carried out at the national level since the First Interregional Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (First Interregional HONLEA) in 1986. In presenting and analysing their data, the participants provided an overall picture of the extent of illicit trafficking, described new trends and highlighted operational successes of law enforcement agencies. With regard to the control of the illicit supply of drugs, some participants referred to the elimination of illicit cultivation of opium poppy and coca bush in their countries and to strict control of cannabis cultivation. Technical difficulties experienced in

locating plantations and eliminating them without endangering the environment were mentioned. It was emphasized that law enforcement eradication operations could not be dissociated from social and economic responses to the situation of growers; adequate crop substitution and rural development programmes were essential. Thus, one participant gave details on action taken in his country to control the cultivation of coca bush, action guided by distinguishing between three cultivation zones: a zone of traditional cultivation, a transitional zone and an illicit zone.

17. Many participants reported on the most significant drug seizures made in their countries since 1986 and gave details of the countries of origin and destination of the drugs and the identity of traffickers. Vehicle seizures and the quantities of drugs confiscated and destroyed were also mentioned by several participants. Some participants reported on substantial results obtained in the detection and dismantling of illicit drug laboratories. Arrest figures on drug couriers, as well as details of their nationalities, were also brought to the attention of the Meeting. Some participants reported the disbanding of criminal gangs, as well as cases in which drug traffickers had been extradited. Some participants underlined the fact that justice was being carried out irrespective of the political position of the offenders; one participant gave details on a case in which highranking officials involved in drug trafficking had been prosecuted and severely punished.

18. Several participants mentioned that new drug law enforcement organs had been created in their countries. The establishment of central co-ordinating units was reported by some participants, while others referred to the creation of services dealing with specific aspects of drug criminality, such as a central office for the repression of high-level financial offences or an élite force specialized in the investigation of complex criminal cases. Several participants indicated that existing national drug control administrations in their countries had been restructured or strengthened by an increase in personnel, the creation of new functions, the promotion of personnel training or the use of new tools such as computerized data bases.

19. Most participants referred to new legislation that had been enacted in their countries since 1986 or was being adopted. Several attributed the new legislative initiatives to international drug control treaties, in particular, the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (E/CONF.82/15 and Corr.2). They noted that several provisions of the Convention were already reflected in their national legislation and that further legislative revisions were being contemplated in order to prepare the ground for the effective ratification of the Convention. Some participants mentioned that substances previously not controlled had been placed under national control, especially substances used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Several participants indicated that the penal codes of their countries had been or were being revised: new criminal offences, such as the laundering of proceeds of drug trafficking or negligence in overseeing financial operations, were being established; new aggravating circumstances, such as the victimization of minors, had been introduced; the prosecution of offenders had been strengthened by modifications in the penal procedure regarding, for instance, the extension of preventive detention of drug offenders or the classification of drug offences as non-bailable offences. Many participants reported that more severe sanctions against drug offenders had been introduced in the criminal laws of their countries. In several countries, that included the application of the death penalty. Some participants mentioned that, although the death

penalty had previously been abolished in their countries, its reintroduction for major drug offences was being contemplated. One participant indicated that, for purposes of intelligence gathering and justice, however, countries should, within the limits of their national laws, avoid the summary execution of drug offenders.

20. One participant indicated that, in view of the inefficiency of the policy of penal prosecution of drug users, decriminalization of the use of drugs was being debated in his country. That measure, should it be adopted, was not to be construed as intending to liberalize drug use. Several participants strongly emphasized their opposition to the dismantling of existing legal restrictions on the use of drugs which, in their opinion, would constitute a defeatist response to drug abuse; one of them stressed that the stabilization of drug abuse in his country was the result of, among other things, the firm law enforcement policy carried out by the national authorities.

21. A number of participants drew attention to the importance of prevention and rehabilitation activities in the fight against drug abuse; they indicated that measures involving treatment, education and social reintegration were allowed by their national legislation as an alternative or a supplement to measures involving punishment. Others reported that specialized treatment centres and hospitals for drug addicts were being built.

22. Several participants gave details on drug prevention campaigns involving the media and emphasized the need for increasing public awareness, particularly in schools, of the dangers of drug abuse. Several participants reported on the observance in their countries of 26 June as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 42/112 of 7 December 1987.

23. A number of participants considered that the reduction of demand should be given greater priority at the international level. The Meeting was informed that the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had decided to organize, in association with the United Nations, and to host a ministerial conference to reduce drug demand and combat the cocaine threat, to be held in London in April 1990.

24. Most of the participants emphasized the paramount importance of international co-operation in the fight against drug trafficking.

25. Many participants referred to bilateral arrangements or formal agreements with neighbouring countries or with countries sharing a specific problem related to drug trafficking. Many of the agreements were aimed at facilitating the rapid exchange of information and intelligence or at providing mutual legal assistance in such matters as the handling of evidence, the transfer of witnesses or the execution of confiscation orders delivered in other countries. Several participants mentioned fruitful arrangements involving the posting of liaison officers, as well as the successful use of the technique of controlled delivery.

26. Regarding regional co-operation, it was recalled that the regional meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies were valuable forums for dealing with common problems. Many participants mentioned regional agreements or forms of co-operation and reported on the positive results achieved through such channels. Information was provided on the work of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), created in January 1987

to promote prevention programmes and law enforcement co-operation. It was also mentioned that all the Governments of Central America had signed an agreement on regional co-operation for the eradication of the illicit traffic of drugs at Managua in April 1989. The successful law enforcement operation executed in August 1988 by members of the International Drug Enforcement Conference with the support of many European counterparts was cited as an example of the benefits of concerted action at the regional level. A meeting of law enforcement officers from five Eastern European countries at Tashkent, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in June 1988 had led to the signing of a co-operation protocol between police authorities of those countries. Mention was made of a meeting of experts from the Balkan States, held at Belgrade in June 1989, which had dealt with the repression of the illicit traffic in drugs and weapons and of terrorism. A quadripartite agreement between countries in Africa was cited as an example of co-operation in that region. Information was provided on initiatives of the Council of Arab Ministers of Interior to harmonize drug legislation. Detailed information was given on the courses of action of a joint co-operation group, established in 1987, that involved the police and customs authorities of five Nordic countries. The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) had organized several regional training programmes for drug law enforcement officers since the First Interregional HONLEA and had formulated a regional five-year programme of action against drug abuse in 1988. The setting up of a technical committee on drugs under the auspices of the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) was referred to by several participants.

27. Several participants recalled that two major international events had taken place under the auspices of the United Nations since the First Interregional HONLEA: the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, which adopted in 1987 the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control (ST/NAR/14), and the Conference of Plenipotentiaries that adopted the 1988 Convention. Those events had led to the establishment of a comprehensive framework for international co-operation. Many participants reported on steps taken to apply some of the provisions of the Convention prior to its entry into force and to prepare the ground for its early ratification. One announced that his country was ready to ratify the Convention. Several participants, in reviewing the channels of international co-operation used in their countries, recalled the important role played in this respect by the United Nations drug control bodies and other international organizations such as the International Criminal Police Organization and the Customs Co-operation Council (CCC).

28. Several participants noted that the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline, together with the 1988 Convention, had imposed additional responsibilities on the United Nations drug control bodies, which needed adequate resources to deal with the problem. Though extrabudgetary resources constituted a valuable short-term solution, they did not represent a long-term solution to the financial needs of the United Nations drug control bodies, whose financial resources needed to be commensurate with their mandates.

29. Several participants reported on, and expressed gratitude for, the technical and financial assistance received from other States or through the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control (UNFDAC). They gave details on achievements made possible by such assistance, such as the building of hospitals and forensic laboratories, the provision of control equipment for use at border crossings and the implementation of training programmes. One participant deplored the fact that, since 1985, assistance to his country in the

fight against drug trafficking had been suspended despite the urgent need for such assistance; he appealed to the international community to remedy what he considered an unjustifiable situation. Several participants emphasized the need for developed countries to provide increased assistance to producer and transit States, which would enable them to respond adequately to drug-related problems. It was pointed out, however, that such assistance should not give rise to interference in the domestic affairs of the recipient country or to any infringement of its sovereignty.

30. One participant delineated a proposal, to be further elaborated, concerning the establishment of a United Nations anti-drug unit to provide assistance as required by Member States, a multifaceted unit that might include paramilitary forces. In the event of law enforcement intervention, the deployment of such a multilateral unit would help safeguard national sovereignty.

31. One participant expressed his support for the idea of establishing an international tribunal to deal with major drug trafficking offences. Another recalled that drug trafficking should be regarded and treated as a crime against humanity.

IV. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST ILLICIT TRAFFIC IN NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES

32. At its 4th and 5th meetings, on 12 and 13 September 1989, the Second Interregional HONLEA considered agenda item 4. It had before it the text of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (E/CONF.82/15 and Corr.2), the Final Act of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (E/CONF.82/14) and a note by the Secretariat on the provisional application of the Convention (DND/IH/1989/4).

33. The Meeting was informed that, as of 1 September 1989, the Convention had been signed by 71 States and EEC and ratified by one State. One participant announced that his Government had completed the internal mechanism required to ratify the Convention and that its instrument of ratification would be deposited with the Secretary-General by the end of September 1989. Several participants reported on measures being taken at the national level that would enable their Governments to ratify the Convention in the near future.

34. Several participants emphasized the importance their Governments attached to the early entry into force of the Convention in order to provide the international community with an effective instrument to attack, directly and forcefully, the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. It was observed that the Convention, together with the drug control treaties already in force, formed an integrated system of control and provided an effective mechanism for dealing with illicit traffic and drug abuse. To ensure that the drug control network had its full impact, it was suggested that efforts should be stepped up in order to achieve universal adherence to the drug control treaties and strict compliance with their provisions.

35. With regard to the provisional application of measures included in the Convention, the view was expressed that the Meeting presented law enforcement authorities with a unique opportunity to propose meaningful practical steps in that direction. It was pointed out that the development of the forms of international co-operation specified in the Convention in, for example, article 6, dealing with extradition, and article 7, dealing with mutual legal assistance, which could be granted without a treaty or other specific legislative authorization, could be undertaken prior to the entry into force of the Convention. It was also suggested that the Meeting might wish to recommend that, in the absence of legal obstacles, national authorities should extend the maximum co-operation to each other with a view to achieving the goals of the Convention in areas such as those covered in article 9.

36. The view was expressed that the Meeting should recommend that States adopt new legislation prior to the entry into force of the Convention in order to apply provisionally some of the measures contained therein. One participant explained that his Government was not in a position to apply provisionally most of the measures provided in the Convention on the basis of existing legislation in his country; in the absence of supportive, concomitant legislation, his Government could comply with articles 12, 13 and 16 only.

37. Many participants indicated that several provisions of the Convention were already covered by existing legislation in their countries. Several other participants referred to new administrative and legal measures adopted or being considered for adoption in their countries in order to bring about desirable changes in the areas covered by the Convention; this would enable them to apply some of the measures provided in the Convention and prepare the ground for its ratification. It was suggested that the Meeting might recommend that Governments should exchange, through the Secretariat, their experiences in solving the problems encountered in adopting legislative and practical measures to comply with the provisions of the Convention. Regarding a suggestion that the Meeting recommend that States should review their legislation or adopt new legislation to comply with the provisions of the Convention, one participant considered that such a recommendation was in the purview of the Commission of Narcotic Drugs and not of the Meeting.

38. Commenting on measures adopted at the national level, several participants pointed to the establishment of an inter-agency committee or unit composed of experts from the law enforcement agencies concerned and relevant ministries, such as the ministries of justice, finance, defence and foreign affairs, to study and adopt measures aimed at compliance with the provisions of the Convention. Several other participants referred to the setting up of a co-ordinating agency at the national level to ensure in due course the effective implementation of the Convention.

39. Several participants referred to initiatives taken at the regional level to study and consider practical measures in line with the objectives of the Convention, notably those aimed at harmonizing penal provisions and operating joint drug law enforcement activities. In this connection, reference was made to ongoing consultations in Europe, under the aegis of the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe and the Council itself, and other consultations among West African States, the States members of ASEAN, the States members of SAARC, the Council of Arab Ministers of Interior and a joint Nordic police-customs co-operation group.

40. Several participants referred to the multidisciplinary approach that had been adopted in their countries in the fight against illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse and stressed the importance of curtailing demand and enhancing prevention, treatment and rehabilitation programmes.

41. Some participants expressed the view that international co-operation should be strengthened so that appropriate assistance would be provided to developing countries to facilitate the adoption of the necessary legislative and other measures to become Parties to the Convention and to implement effectively its provisions. The range of measures required to deal with the problem, such as demand reduction programmes, crop substitution and law enforcement measures, were often beyond the limited resources of developing countries.

42. Several participants mentioned a number of measures that had already been taken at the international level with a view to the provisional application of the Convention. Reference was made to the modification of part A of the annual reports questionnaire, enabling the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to review the measures adopted by States to apply provisionally the measures contained in the Convention, and to the inclusion of the provision of legislative assistance to States in the programme of work of the Division of Narcotic Drugs.

43. Several participants informed the Meeting that the criminal offences referred to in article 3 of the Convention were covered by recent penal provisions in the legislation of their countries. It was indicated that more stringent penalties, including the death penalty or life imprisonment, had been adopted to serve as a strong deterrent to drug trafficking. One participant mentioned that special tribunals had been established to try major drug traffickers.

44. Several participants indicated that measures recently adopted in their legal systems would enable their Governments to comply with the provisions of article 5 concerning the tracing, freezing and confiscation of assets. Measures were also provided for the prosecution of those involved in concealing or disguising property derived from illicit drug trafficking and courts were empowered to give effect to confiscation orders issued by courts in other countries. One participant referred to work being carried out under the aegis of the Council of Europe on the preparation of a European convention on the search, seizure and confiscation of the proceeds of crime.

45. Several participants referred to measures adopted for the application of article 6, concerning the extradition of drug traffickers. Several others informed the Meeting of bilateral and multilateral treaties concluded by their Governments along the lines of article 7 on mutual legal assistance. One participant indicated that his Government had recently adopted measures on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters that were consistent with the recommendations of the Commonwealth Law Ministers Conference, held at Harare in 1986, giving effect to requests for assistance in criminal matters from other States, particularly in connection with articles 5, 6, 7 and 10 of the Convention. Several participants indicated that their States were prepared to co-operate through bilateral agreements and to respond to requests for assistance from other States in applying the provisions of the Convention within the framework of such agreements.

46. With reference to article 10 on international co-operation and assistance for transit States, the view was expressed that consideration should be given to providing technical assistance and support to such States, particularly to developing countries diverting limited resources to counter the transit traffic, to the detriment of their development programmes. It was suggested that such assistance might be channelled through UNFDAC.

47. With regard to article 11 on the technique of controlled delivery, several participants informed the Meeting of successful joint operations undertaken by their drug law enforcement authorities which had led to the dismantling of drug trafficking syndicates. One participant considered that the continued successful use of the technique depended on the guarantee that the authorities in the country of destination would take the appropriate steps to ensure that the traffickers involved would be arrested and prosecuted. Another participant, while noting that the technique had not yet been used in his country, indicated that his Government was prepared to facilitate its use and co-operate with any national agency to that effect.

48. Referring to the alarming increase in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the increased seizures of substances in Table I and Table II, as reported by several Governments, many participants stressed the urgency of the thorough and prompt application of article 12, concerning the monitoring of substances used for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. It was observed that, in view of the critical situation, stricter measures of control should be adopted at the national level, particularly by developed countries, in order to monitor effectively the production and movement of such substances and prevent their diversion to the illicit traffic. Several participants referred to the stringent measures of control adopted in their countries with regard to the production, distribution and trade of substances used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Some participants suggested that, acting on the basis of article 24 on the application of stricter measures than those required by the Convention, States should consider applying to substances in Table I and Table II measures similar to those provided for substances under control in the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, and in the Convention on Psychotropic Substances 1971.

49. With regard to article 14 of the 1988 Convention, several participants pointed to the different measures adopted by their Governments for the eradication of illicit cultivation of narcotic plants. In the view of one participant, there was an urgent need to identify sources of illicit opium cultivation in the Near and Middle East.

50. With respect to further action to be taken at the international level in order to facilitate the entry into force of the 1988 Convention and to assist in its effective implementation, it was suggested that the Division of Narcotic Drugs, with the support and financial assistance of UNFDAC, should assist developing countries in implementing the Convention by organizing seminars, meetings or workshops for personnel and officials responsible for its implementation; prepare commentaries, guidelines or practical handbooks as reference sources on the implementation of provisions of the Convention; and conduct regional or interregional conferences to harmonize national legislation. It was also suggested that the Division should provide legal and technical assistance to States, particularly in drafting or amending national legislation as might be required to ratify and implement the Convention.

51. It was suggested by some participants that, in order to deal forcefully with the threat posed by organized drugs syndicates, consideration should be given to the establishment, under the aegis of the United Nations, of a multi-faceted strike force to provide specialized operational support and assistance to States, at their request, with a view to neutralizing the organization and operations of illicit drug syndicates.

V. REVIEW OF COUNTERMEASURES AND SPECIAL TECHNIQUES

52. At its 5th, 6th and 7th meetings, on 13 September 1989, the Second Inter-regional HONLEA considered item 5 of its agenda. The Meeting had before it a report prepared by the Secretariat entitled "Dimensions of joint operational law enforcement counteraction in the suppression of illicit drug traffic world-wide" (DND/IH/1989/5) and a report of the Expert Group on Rapid Testing Methods of Drugs of Abuse (E/CN.7/1988/CRP.3), as well as numerous conference room papers prepared by Governments. Audio-visual presentations were made on special topics such as drug-scenting dogs and internal body concealment.

53. There was general support for the content and approach of the report of the Secretariat, which highlighted possibilities for joint operational law enforcement counteraction in the suppression of illicit traffic, emphasizing specialization, upgrading and broad compatibility. It was agreed that the international community could make significant progress in combating illicit drug trafficking by pursuing various forms of bilateral and multilateral co-operation.

54. Illicit drug trafficking had to be considered in the context of organized crime, particularly in respect of terrorist activities. Funds derived from illicit trafficking were being used to support terrorist activities and a war was being waged against States. It was therefore considered essential to develop an international alliance and an effective operational strategy for a confrontation with organized drug crime that would result in the breaking of all links in the chain of international drug trafficking.

55. To achieve effective results, operational drug law enforcement co-operative techniques should be implemented to the maximum extent possible. Those identified as being most promising in the suppression of illicit traffic related to witness protection, controlled delivery, the utilization and training of drug-scenting dogs and their handlers, financial investigation of the proceeds of drug crime, the detection of smuggling by mail, mutual legal assistance, the eradication of illicit drugs and the curtailment of narcotic drugs in export cargoes.

56. The operational capability of the international drug law enforcement community had to be built up and utilized fully. It was emphasized that the experience and expertise of specialist agencies and personnel from all parts of the world could be drawn upon for that purpose. A number of drug law enforcement agencies were sharing with others valuable experience and expertise on certain specialized anti-trafficking measures, particularly their implementation, their refinement and problem-solving. Drug law enforcement agencies were increasingly providing each other with assistance, especially to enable countries with relatively little or no capability in certain areas to develop their own programmes and reach self-sufficiency. Teams of specialized trainers were making on-site visits in various countries.

57. It was stressed that the possibilities for international co-operation had not been exhausted. Co-operative law enforcement links for maintaining close contact and direct communication were considered indispensable. Moreover, common services and facilities, including intelligence units and bases in strategic locations to exchange information, operational bases on borders, regional training centres for law enforcement personnel and regional laboratories, needed to be established.

58. It was noted that Governments were increasingly considering mutual legal assistance and extradition in criminal matters to be of high priority. One participant placed strong emphasis on the provision of mutual legal assistance in combating drug trafficking at the regional and interregional levels. Joint investigation and handling of cases between two or more countries should be intensified. Attention was drawn to the importance of regional training, information exchanges and other assistance in the development and negotiation of legislation and agreements on mutual assistance and confiscation. Regional meetings should be organized to identify possible forms of mutual legal assistance among Parties to the 1988 Convention. The proposed model treaty on mutual assistance in criminal matters, to be considered by the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in 1990, was regarded as a useful framework for countries interested in concluding bilateral agreements aimed at improving co-operation in crime prevention and criminal justice.

59. Many participants underlined the fact that the economic power of organized crime syndicates posed a formidable threat, infiltrating and subverting legitimate industry. One effective response to the situation consisted in intensified law enforcement action for the transnational seizure and confiscation not only of the illicit substances, but also of the instrumentalities and proceeds of criminal syndicates. It was recognized, however, that the identification, tracing, freezing and confiscation of the proceeds of drug crime, in terms of law and procedure, constituted an area that the international community had yet to master. Attention should therefore be given to developing mechanisms for tracing profits, involving, among other things, the relaxing of bank secrecy laws, the exchange of evidence of drug crimes in a manner that would make such evidence admissible in foreign countries, and the enactment of criminal and civil forfeiture laws. Furthermore, it was necessary to criminalize money laundering, in accordance with the provisions of the 1988 Convention, instead of relying solely on voluntary codes of conduct in respect of banking operations.

60. It was noted that several States had already adopted laws providing for the confiscation of drug proceeds, as a part of their criminal law. Many participants stressed the importance of entering into bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to give effect to criminal forfeiture orders in neighbouring States. One participant suggested that texts of laws and regulations relating to the confiscation of proceeds and mutual assistance should be furnished to the Division of Narcotic Drugs for transmission to Member States on request.

61. Many participants expressed satisfaction that the technique of controlled delivery had finally received international recognition in the 1988 Convention. Drug law enforcement officers considered controlled delivery one of the best tactical measures to identify and prosecute drug traffickers and an indispensable instrument in the suppression of illicit traffic networks. The controlled delivery of drugs across borders required bilateral and multilateral agreements, and many States were in the process of entering into such agreements.

62. It was considered imperative that an effective and structured computer-aided system be established for gathering and exchanging intelligence and information. The efficiency of cross-border investigations should also be enhanced. Every available means should be used to achieve direct communication between counterparts in different countries, ensuring the prompt forwarding of information, particularly in respect of transportation routes and methods of trafficking.

63. Reference was made to the importance of the use of informants in investigations and the presentation of evidence. In this connection, one participant drew attention to the growing need for providing witnesses of drug crimes with the necessary protection. The intensified investigation of major drug trafficking cases and the focus upon terrorist acts by drug traffickers had reinforced the need for such protection. A national witness protection programme established in one country had provided police organizations on a regional basis with witness protection co-ordinators. In order to guarantee a credible and effective witness protection programme, it was suggested that the establishment of such programmes should be examined elsewhere as a necesssary component of law enforcement arsenals.

64. There was agreement on the increasing difficulty of detecting smuggled drugs, conducting searches and making substance seizures, as concealment methods were continually becoming more sophisticated.

65. Attention was drawn by several participants to problems arising from the enormous number of containers being used in international trade. One participant reported on the modalities of co-operation between the public and private sectors which had been set up in his country to combat drug trafficking in that particular area. Reference was made to the establishment of a system for registering exporters, the publication of an export security manual and the creation of a data bank for monitoring the incidence of narcotic finds by exporter, consignee, shipper, trucker, product and port in order to facilitate the detection of narcotics concealed in export cargoes. Another participant mentioned that attention should be given to import cargoes as well as export cargoes. In order to avoid having to rely solely on random cargo searches, it was agreed that computerization was of great value in supporting a structured intelligence system.

66. Several participants commented on the problem of drug smuggling by internal body concealment. They noted that that form of smuggling posed a growing and delicate problem for drug enforcement authorities and that efforts should be made to find effective countermeasures to combat it. Equipment for testing urine should be further developed with a view to obtaining more decisive results and laws might have to be amended to allow drug law enforcement officers to take low-dose X-rays of suspected passengers.

67. Several participants underscored the value of using drug-scenting dogs as an anti-smuggling technique, particularly in the light of their proven usefulness in detecting cocaine, cannabis, heroin and amphetamines. Their wider use by police services was advocated. It was noted that, over the past few years, some Governments had provided law enforcement officers from drug-producing countries with training on the use of such dogs. Governments and the United Nations bodies concerned were urged to provide requesting law enforcement authorities with the necessary financial assistance to enable them to attend training courses on the subject in other countries.

68. One participant gave details on how the problem of drug smuggling by mail affected his country. Although relatively small quantities of narcotic drugs were being transported by postal parcels, it had become necessary to deal with such cases with the maximum level of effectiveness, especially since postal facilities offered a means of smuggling narcotic drugs that was difficult to detect and would no doubt be utilized to a greater extent in the near future. In this context, co-ordination and exchange of information between the law enforcement agencies of the sending and receiving countries concerned were necessary. The dissemination at the international level of information on the modus operandi involved in sending illicit drugs by mail could facilitate action on the part of the countries concerned.

69. Some participants reported on the successful use of eradication methods involving aerial and land spraying in their countries. Appreciation was expressed by one participant for the international assistance received by his country in support of such methods.

70. The training of drug law enforcement personnel was identified as the corner-stone of successful efforts in the suppression of illicit traffic. It was emphasized that state-of-the-art techniques in drug law enforcement were essential. High priority was attached to the provision of full-fledged training in the context of the international drug law enforcement training strategy of the United Nations.

71. The Meeting was informed of the regional and international research and training activities of the Arab Security Studies and Training Centre (ASSTC), which included training programmes of its Higher Institute of Advanced Studies and the formulation of a five-year plan of action in respect of drug law enforcement in the Arab world. ASSTC was collaborating with the Division in the establishment of the long-term training strategy.

72. The observer from CCC outlined its activities to promote regional and interregional co-operation in the field of drug law enforcement, focusing on the provision of practical assistance to its member countries.

73. The Meeting was informed of the activities of the United Nations Office at Vienna, Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, in the promotion of effective strategies for crime prevention and criminal justice. The Eighth Congress would deal with, among other topics, organized crime, policy responses involving bilateral and multilateral forms of co-operation, the transfer of criminal proceedings, extradition, and drug-related criminality, particularly narco-terrorism.

VI. DEVELOPMENT OF A LONG-TERM DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING STRATEGY

74. At its 8th meeting, on 14 September 1989, the Second Interregional HONLEA considered item 6 of its agenda on the basis of a report prepared by the Secretariat, entitled "Technical aspects involved in and approach to the development of an international drug law enforcement training strategy by the United Nations" (DND/IH/1989/6), and taking into account a manual on rapid testing methods of drugs of abuse, published by the Division of Narcotic Drugs (ST/NAR/13).

75. The view was expressed that the report of the Secretariat was comprehensive and indicated avenues leading to a more scientific and practical approach to co-operative law enforcement action, under the guidance and with the assistance of the Division.

76. Appreciation was expressed for the work by the Division on the development of a long-term international drug law enforcement training strategy, particularly activities relating to the formulation of standard training manuals, programmes and curricula. Research, policy guidance, planning and evaluation were also considered to be essential components for successful implementation of the strategy world-wide.

77. It was stated that the technical aspects involved in the development of such a strategy by the United Nations provided the international community with a concrete way of making major breakthroughs in the suppression of illicit traffic.

78. Standard-setting in drug law enforcement training would serve to help prevent organized drug crime syndicates from taking advantage of disparate practices of police action at the regional and international levels. Standard-setting would make it possible to achieve compatibility and harmonization, improving communication and co-operation between law enforcement agencies and facilitating joint action.

79. Most participants pledged their expertise and co-operation in that undertaking. The Meeting was informed that Hungary was prepared to host a seminar on one of the topics listed in the annexes to the report of the Secretariat.

80. The central co-ordinating role and clearing-house functions of the Division of Narcotic Drugs in the field of drug law enforcement training was recognized. The observer from CCC stated that his organization was ready to serve as a resource agency for the Division.

81. All participants emphasized the indispensable contribution of drug law enforcement training in the suppression of illicit trafficking and the reduction of demand for illicit drugs. It was reaffirmed that the best instrument could not replace a well-trained officer and that instruments were only useful when properly used. Some participants mentioned the importance that drug law enforcement agencies attached to various regional and international approaches to training. It was recommended that the Division should plan and design programmes tailored to meet regional needs dealing with such topics as legislation and investigation; it should also assist in identifying potential trainers who could be called upon to participate in such programmes.

82. It was noted that the well-organized and heavily financed illicit drug traffic was difficult for many law enforcement agencies to contain, particularly in developing countries; assistance and input from interested national, regional and interregional organizations were therefore desirable.

83. A number of participants described the training activities of their national drug law enforcement agencies, some of which involved data management and the destruction of illicit crops; they also outlined their regional and international involvement in training activities and stated their willingness to pursue additional joint activities.

84. The establishment and strengthening of existing regional and subregional training centres and laboratories were considered to be important to the advancement of the long-term strategy, particularly in the Near and Middle East and in Africa. One participant was of the view that the Meeting should consider recommending the inclusion of a training centre in West Africa. It was noted that the creation of a central training centre at the national level was a necessary first step towards the development of regional training activities.

85. The observer from CCC indicated that drug law enforcement training was a priority activity of his organization. In fact, a full-time training officer had recently been appointed to serve at CCC headquarters. Reference was made to the CCC series of training modules, seminars and fellowships, through which instruction was offered in specialized areas of customs enforcement.

86. The observer from the Colombo Plan Bureau emphasized that training was the most effective tool for suppressing illicit drug trafficking. He reported on the training activities of the Bureau and the impact they had had on illicit trafficking. He pointed to the urgent need to intensify and upgrade drug law enforcement training and pledged the support of the Bureau in regional and interregional endeavours. The observer from ASEAN reported on the activities of ASEAN regional drug law enforcement training centres.

87. A number of activities to be undertaken by the Division of Narcotic Drugs, in pursuance of the long-term international drug law enforcement training strategy and in line with the proposals contained in the report of the Secretariat, were suggested. These included:

(a) The establishment of a training unit at Vienna to co-ordinate relevant activities in consultation with the International Narcotics Control Board, UNFDAC and other relevant bodies and in accordance with the demands and requirements expressed by the regional meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies;

(b) The convening of a working group to consider the development and use of standardized United Nations curricula and to review, for that purpose, the training syllabuses contained in the annex of the report of the Secretariat;

(c) The designing of an international training plan, based on a region-by-region assessment of training approaches, strategies and requirements;

(d) The planning of training centres in Egypt, Kenya and Morocco with the necessary communications and laboratory equipment, with the support of UNFDAC.

VII. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM REGIONAL MEETINGS OF HEADS OF NATIONAL DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES REFERRED TO THE MEETING BY THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

88. At the 9th meeting, on 15 September 1989, a statement was made by the French Minister of the Interior, speaking also in his capacity as chairman of the group of EEC ministers of the interior. He stressed that the means at the disposal of national law enforcement agencies were insufficient to deal forcefully with the acute world-wide problem of illicit drug traffic.

Decriminalization of drug abuse was not the right solution. He welcomed the idea of establishing a European HONLEA and reaffirmed the strong commitment of EEC member States and pledged their support to countries and organizations engaged in the intensified efforts to combat illicit traffic. He applauded, in particular, the measures taken by Mexico and the courageous response made by Colombia in that direction.

89. The Second Interregional HONLEA considered item 7 of its agenda. It had before it a document on that item prepared by the Secretariat (DND/IH/1989/7), the report of the Second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Latin America and the Caribbean (E/CN.7/1989/3), and the report of the Fourteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Asia and the Pacific (E/CN.7/1989/4 and Corr.1).

90. The Meeting took note of and endorsed the recommendations referred to it for adoption by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

91. At its 9th meeting, on 15 September 1989, the Second Interregional HONLEA considered item 8 of its agenda.

92. The Executive Director of UNFDAC made a statement warning against emotional reactions that could lead to extreme measures, such as legalization on the one hand and all-out war on the other, adding that it was the responsibility of the United Nations to clarify the risks involved in such positions. Referring to his recent discussions with high-level officials at Washington, D.C., he stated that they had conveyed the message of increased political and financial support for UNFDAC programmes by the Government of the United States of America. He expressed the hope that that support would lead other Governments to follow the same path and indicated that UNFDAC awaited orientation and guidance from the international community.

93. The representative of Colombia conveyed the gratitude of his country for the solidarity expressed in the message addressed by the Meeting to the President of Colombia (annex III) and for the support provided to Colombia by the international community, with due respect for Colombian sovereignty.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

States

Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Union of, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

United Nations Secretariat

United Nations Office at Vienna: Division of Narcotic Drugs; International Narcotics Control Board secretariat; Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs

United Nations bodies

International Narcotics Control Board; United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control

Research institutes

United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Intergovernmental organizations

Arab Security Studies and Training Centre; Association of South-East Asian Nations; Colombo Plan Bureau; Commission of the European Communities; Commonwealth Secretariat; Council of Arab Ministers of Interior; Customs Co-operation Council; International Criminal Police Organization; League of Arab States; Organization of American States; Permanent Secretariat of the South American Agreement on Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances

Non-governmental organizations

Associated Country Women of the World; Caritas Internationalis; International Association of Lions Clubs; International Catholic Movement for Intellectual and Cultural Affairs and International Movement of Catholic Students; International Council of Women; International Council on Alcohol and Addictions; International Road Transport Union; Italian Centre for Solidarity; Soroptimist International Association; World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts; Zonta International.

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Documents prepared for the Meeting

Document number	Title or description	Agenda item
DND/IH/1989/1	Provisional agenda	2
DND/IH/1989/2	Annotated provisional agenda	2
DND/IH/1989/3	Developments since the First Interregional HONLEA: regional and interregional trends and perspectives; report of the Secretariat	3
DND/IH/1989/4	Provisional application of the 1988 Convention: report of the Secretariat	4
DND/IH/1989/5	Dimensions of joint operational law enforcement counteraction in the suppression of illicit drug traffic world-wide: report of the Secretariat	5
DND/IH/1989/6	Technical aspects involved in and approach to the development of an international drug law enforcement training strategy by the United Nations	6
DND/IH/1989/7	Recommendations from regional meetings of HONLEA referred to the Meeting by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs: report of the Secretariat	7

Background documents

Document number	Title or description
E/CONF.82/14	Final Act of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances

Document number	Title or description
E/CONF.82/15 and Corr.2	United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances adopted by the Conference at its 6th plenary meeting, on 19 December 1988
E/CN.7/1987/3	First Interregional Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (Interregional HONLEA), Vienna, Austria, 28 July-1 August 1986: report
E/CN.7/1988/7	Report of the First Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Latin American and Caribbean Region, Chile, 28 September-2 October 1987
E/CN.7/1988/8 and Corr.1	Heads of Nations Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Asia and the Pacific Region: report of the thirteenth meeting, Tokyo, Japan, 30 November-4 December 1987
E/CN.7/1988/CRP.3	Report of the Expert Group on Rapid Testing Methods of Drugs of Abuse, Vienna, Austria, 25-29 May 1987
E/CN.7/1989/2	Report of the Second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Africa
E/CN.7/1989/3	Report of the Second Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Latin America and the Caribbean, Lima, 12-16 September 1988
E/CN.7/1989/4 and Corr.1	Report of the fourteenth meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 3-7 October 1988
E/CN.7/1989/8 and Corr.1	Situation and trends in drug abuse and illicit traffic: review of the illicit traffic; report by the Secretary-General
E/CN.7/1989/20	Sub-Commission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, Vienna, 31 January-1 February 1989; report on the twenty-fourth session
E/CN.7/1989/21	Excerpt from the report on the thirty-third session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs chapter II
E/CN.7/1989/CRP.5	Data on the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances during 1987: note by the Secretary-General
E/NL.1986/Index	Cumulative index 1980-1986: national laws and regulations relating to the control of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances
E/5975/Rev.1	Rules of Procedure of the Functional Commissions of the Economic and Social Council

Document number	Title or description
E.77.XI.3	Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961
E.78.XI.3	Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971
ST/NAR/10	Clandestine Manufacture of Substances under International Control
ST/NAR/13	Rapid Testing Methods of Drugs of Abuse
ST/NAR/14	Declaration of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking and Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control
DND/IH/1989/INF.1	Information for participants
DND/IH/1989/INF.2/Rev.1	Provisional list of participants

Conference room papers*

DND/IH/1989/CRP.1	Provisional timetable (E/F/S)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.2	Current trends in illicit narcotic drugs traffic (cocaine, heroin and cannabis resin): report of the Secretariat (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.3	Report of the Workshop on Drug-Scenting Dogs (Vienna, 17-25 April 1989) (E/F/S)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.4	Controlled delivery: New Zealand National Drug Intelligence Bureau (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.5	Confiscation of proceeds of drug trafficking: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (E/F/S)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.6	Drug law enforcement and dog training: United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (E/F/S)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.7	Drug smuggling: internal bodily concealments; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (E/F/S)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.8	The smuggling of narcotic drugs by mail: Netherlands (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.9	Drug trafficking courier profiles: Australian Federal Police (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.10	Pre-trial drug destruction: Australian Federal Police (E only)

* Issued for participants only.

Document number	Title or description
DND/IH/1989/CRP.11	Mutual legal assistance in combatting drug trafficking: Australia's emerging experience; Attorney-General's Department, Canberra, Australia (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.12	Aspects of international drug trafficking and abuse and appropriate law enforcement: Federal Republic of Germany (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.13	Training and use of drug-scenting dogs in the Customs Administration of the Federal Republic of Germany (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.14	Problems with drug smuggling in the body: Federal Republic of Germany (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.15	Controlled delivery: Federal Republic of Germany (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.16	Country paper: Pakistan (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.17	Puestos de revisión para detectar y, en su caso, asegurar estupefacientes y sustancias psicotrópicas: México (S only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.18	Medidas de control y vigilancia de los precursores y sustancias químicas, material y equipo cuya utilización se desvía a la elaboración ilícita de estupefacientes y sustancias psicotrópicas: México (S only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.19	Técnicas de investigación tendientes a lograr la afectación de los bienes, instrumentos, objetos y productos derivados, provenientes o relacionados con el narcotráfico (lavado de dinero): México (S only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.20	Establecimiento de penas y medidas mas severas y eficaces para combatir el narcotráfico: México (S only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.21	Técnicas de erradicación de plantíos ilícitos: México (S only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.22	Controlled deliveries: Canada (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.23	Proceeds of crime investigations within drug enforcement: Canada (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.24	Witness protection: Canada (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.25	Offshore and aviation drug enforcement: Canada (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.26	Asset seizure and forfeiture: United States of America (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.27	Controlled deliveries: United States of America (E only)

Document number	Title or description
DND/IH/1989/CRP.28	Suppression of illicit drug trafficking: Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.29	Narcotics situation: Thailand (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.30	Approach to the curtailment of narcotic drugs in export cargo: Jamaica (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.31	Development in the field of drug law enforcement in the ASEAN region since the First Interregional HONLEA: secretariat of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.32	New methods of struggle against illegal trafficking in narcotic drugs applied by customs and police: drug detection by dogs trained to the technique of smell identification; Hungary (E/R)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.33	Pursuing, freezing and confiscating assets used in narcotics illicit traffic operations and the proceeds gathered from them: Egypt (A/E)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.34	Policy document on problems relating to drug smuggling aboard merchant vessels: Netherlands (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.35	La Reunión de Jefes de Organismos Nacionales de Represión del Uso Indebido de Drogas: Acuerdo Sud-americano sobre Estupefacientes y Psicotrópicos (S only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.36	Algunos aspectos de la legislación venezolana sobre prevención, tratamiento del consumidor y tráfico de estupefacientes: Venezuela (S only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.37	La détection des drogues ingérées: France (F only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.38	Provisional list of documents (E/F/S)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.39	Nordic co-operation between police- and customs authorities in the fight against drug crimes: Iceland, Finland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.40	Development of a long-term drug law enforcement training strategy: Philippines (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.41	Heroin connection: its strategic location with respect to air traffic; Sri Lanka (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.42	Comparable features of Philippine laws and regulations with the 1988 UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Philippines (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.43	Country paper: Brunei Darussalam (E only)
DND/IH/1989/CRP.44	Documento del país: Colombia (S only)

Annex III

MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA

Following the general discussion on the world situation with respect to illicit drug trafficking, which took place at the Second Interregional Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies at Vienna, we regard with deep concern the intensification, throughout the world and especially in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean, of the drug-related activities of criminal groups. In particular, we wish to convey to you and to all the people of Colombia our full support in your valiant struggle to suppress the cartels, organized criminal groups and other criminal associations involved in drugs.

Such criminal groups are not only violating the laws and threatening the judicial structure of Colombian society, but are also challenging the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and indeed the entire international community. This being so, we recognize that your fight is our fight. The success of Colombia in its efforts is of vital importance to us all.

The participants of this Meeting, who represent more than 100 countries and organizations, wish you success in your hard and heroic battle.

Respectfully,

Lic. Javier Coello Trejo
Chairman of the Meeting